

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



September 2017

We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

BNSF Culvert Project

The City is engaged in collaborative work with BNSF Railway Company that promises to accomplish important work for the benefit of our residents. This week BNSF crews began driving steel piles for a new short span bridge that will be installed at the location of a large culvert where Kulshan Creek crosses the railroad. The project will be beneficial to fish and help improve drainage in the creek along Roosevelt Avenue.



Most importantly, the City's downtown flood protection project has a 70-foot long section that needs to be installed over the railroad tracks near Freeway Drive at Lion's Park. BNSF crews will soon install steel piles in preparation for other floodwall work that will be installed at this location. The City cost for both the Kulshan Creek work and the steel piles by Freeway Drive is a very excellent value at less than \$375,000, and work is expected to be completed within the next few months.

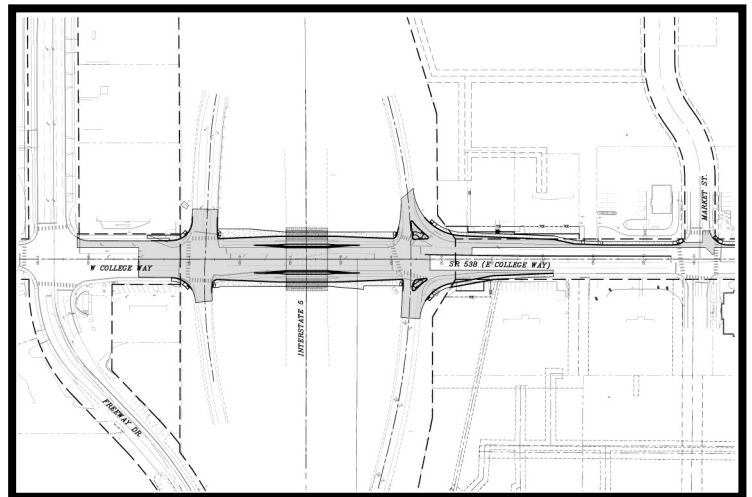
Other upcoming important work associated with the City's collaboration with BNSF will be the smoothing of the railroad crossing at College Way and the crossing at Section Street.

College Way Widening Update

Design work for the City's fully-funded project to add two traffic lanes on College Way beneath Interstate 5 is substantially complete, but the right of way acquisition for the project is taking longer than anticipated. Even so, the project will be bid this fall and constructed over an eight-month period next year. The good news is that bidding the contract this fall for work that begins next construction season will help the City get a good competitive response from contractors during these busy conditions.

The project is relatively large and complex. This \$6.3 million project is a collaboration between the City, Washington State Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highways Administration.

Building extra lanes on a State highway used by 24,000 vehicles each day to travel beneath an interstate highway carrying more than 70,000 vehicles per day requires lengthy procedures necessary to assure that everything about the project is carefully planned and executed.



Mayor's Coffee Hour

Saturday, September 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Skagit Valley Food Co-op, Mezzanine Area
202 S. 1st Street

Friday, September 29, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Skagit Gleaners
1021 Riverside Drive

Visit the City website for more information:
www.mountvernonwa.gov



Congratulations to our Wastewater Treatment Plant for perfect compliance (yes, 24/7) in 2016. This is the 14th time they have received this award and the 7th consecutive year in a row!

Wards 1 & 3 Community Meetings with Councilmembers

Mount Vernon City Councilmembers have scheduled Community Ward Meetings to encourage community discussion about important issues and to provide residents with the opportunity to voice their questions, concerns or observations about the City of Mount Vernon.

The Councilmembers representing the Ward, Mayor Jill Boudreau, and City staff from the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments will be in attendance at the meetings.

The meetings will be held as follows:

Ward 1 - Monday, September 25, 6pm at the Mount Vernon Police Department, 1805 Continental Place (Councilmembers Joe Lindquist, Ken Quam and Dale Ragan)

Ward 3 - Tuesday, October 3, 6pm at Fire Station 3, 4701 E. Division Street (Councilmembers Mary Hudson, Bob Fiedler and Dale Ragan)

There is a Ward map on the City's website at www.mountvernonwa.gov or residents may call the Mayor's Office at (360) 336-6211 to determine which Ward they reside in.

Dealing with Disaster by Being Prepared

Mount Vernon City Library
315 Snoqualmie Street
Tuesday, October 10, 6:30pm

Learn the steps and skills necessary to be prepared for many of the different emergencies you may experience in the Pacific Northwest: having emergency supplies on hand, a plan to evacuate or stay in place, and how to keep in communication with your loved ones and the outside world.



Kiwanis Club Donation

The Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon continues its amazing partnership and support of our City's Parks programs with a recent and very generous donation of \$15,000 towards the construction of a 25th Street playground.

This playground will provide a much needed recreational facility in close proximity to hundreds of children in our community. Not content with the amazing success and popularity of the Kiwanis Spray Park and Boardwalk, the Kiwanis Club was in search of a new project that would align with our growing community's recreational needs.

Kiwanis President Josh Anderson, Long Range Planning Committee member Steve Schultz and other committee members met with Parks and Enrichment Director Bill King and staff to review a number of critical park projects. After much discussion, Kiwanis decided to partner with the City on the creation of a playground at the 25th Street Park.

In addition to their initial contribution, Kiwanis has pledged an **ADDITIONAL** \$30,000 over the next two years in support of this wonderful project. We are profoundly grateful for their support and dedication to the youth of our community. As a City, we thank them for their longstanding commitment and dedication in supporting community wellness through parkland development. We look forward to working closely with them on this project.



Kiwanis presents donation to City (left to right: Kiwanis member Steve Schultz, Parks & Enrichment Director Bill King, and Kiwanis President Josh Anderson)

Lion's Park Restroom Nearing Completion

The brand new Lion's Park restroom project is on schedule for completion this month and is looking great!

The two-piece modular has been installed, the concrete was recently poured, and final testing of utilities is expected in the coming days. If all goes according to plan this wonderful new amenity will be open to the public on or around September 22.



Thank you, Parks staff!